

Grace Lutheran Church, School, ECC

Oak Creek, Wisconsin
www.graceoakcreek.org

*Celebrate
Teach
Share
God's Grace*

The First Sunday in Advent

November 29th, 2020

“By His Grace you are saved through faith”

Ephesians 2:8



Image: “They brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and He sat on it. And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields.” (Mark 11:7–8)

Welcome to Grace! We're Glad You've Joined Us!

WORSHIP NOTES FOR OUR GUESTS

Worship bulletins (age 3-6) are available for your children to use during the service. Please see an usher if you need assistance finding them.

Children are **always** welcome - we don't want anything to keep families from attending! From time to time a child will naturally have a difficult moment in worship. If that happens and you feel a need to step out, please make use of our Church Narthex and Entrance, so you may still be able to follow along in worship until your child is ready to return again!

If you would like to include a **prayer for someone** in our worship today, please add it to the Prayer Request Sheet found on the podium in the narthex.

A few minutes prior to the start of worship, our organist will begin playing the "Prelude". At this time we set aside our personal conversations and use this as a time to prepare for worship. Consider offering a silent prayer (sample prayers are offered on the opening page of our hymnal), reading through the Scripture lessons for the day, or listening to the music as we prepare ourselves to enter God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

We're glad you're with us. Please introduce yourself to Pastor Taggatz. If you are in search of a new church home, or are interested in learning more about Grace, we would be happy to visit with you. We hope you'll be back and give us an opportunity to know you!

As We Gather-*"A New Church Year"*

The Church Year begins by taking us to the scene of our Lord's final entry into Jerusalem that great and holy week. Yes, Christmas is at hand. Surely the preparations for the celebration of His incarnation, His earthly birth of the Virgin Mary, are already well under way. But wait a moment. We enter this new year already knowing why He became incarnate of the Holy Spirit for us and for our salvation, which is only by way of His passion, death, and resurrection. We begin by continuing to *"wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ"* on the Last Day (1 Corinthians 1:7), sustained by Him now in the forgiveness of our sins, guiltless and ready. In readiness, we boldly pray that our Lord comes to rescue and save us.

Order of Service—LSB, Divine Service, Setting 3 pg. 184

We Invite a moment of silence during the prelude for Prayer

As our organist begins the prelude we move from our regular conversations and the happenings of the world around us in order to turn our attention to worship. **Please take these moments as an opportunity to focus on prayer** (Suggested prayers prior to worship may be found on the opening page of your hymnal) and meditation. Make use of this time to look through our service in anticipation of the scripture we will share and the hymns we will sing. God richly bless us as we gather in God's presence today! We hope you will take these moments as a time to transition into worship as we have entered into God's presence through Word and Sacrament.

✘ PREPARATION ✘

Opening Hymn—332 Savior of the Nations, Come (vs. 1-4)



1 Sav - ior of the na - tions, come, Vir - gin's Son, make
2 Not by hu - man flesh and blood, By the Spir - it
3 Here a maid was found with child, Yet re - mained a
4 Then stepped forth the Lord of all From His pure and



here Your home! Mar - vel now, O heav'n and earth,
of our God, Was the Word of God made flesh—
vir - gin mild. In her womb this truth was shown:
king - ly hall; God of God, yet ful - ly man,



That the Lord chose such a birth.
Wom - an's off - spring, pure and fresh.
God was there up - on His throne.
His he - ro - ic course be - gan.

Stand

- P In the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
- C **Amen.**
- P Beloved in the Lord! Let us draw near with a true heart and confess our sins unto God our Father, beseeching Him in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ to grant us forgiveness.

P Our help is in the name of the Lord,
C **who made heaven and earth.**

P I said, I will confess my transgressions unto the Lord,
C **and You forgave the iniquity of my sin.**

Silence for reflection on God's Word and for self-examination.

P O almighty God, merciful Father,
C **I, a poor, miserable sinner, confess unto You all my sins and iniquities with which I have ever offended You and justly deserved Your temporal and eternal punishment. But I am heartily sorry for them and sincerely repent of them, and I pray You of Your boundless mercy and for the sake of the holy, innocent, bitter sufferings and death of Your beloved Son, Jesus Christ, to be gracious and merciful to me, a poor, sinful being.**

P Upon this your confession, I, by virtue of my office, as a called and ordained servant of the Word, announce the grace of God unto all of you, and in the stead and by the command of my Lord Jesus Christ I forgive you all your sins in the name of the Father and of the T Son and of the Holy Spirit.
C **Amen.**

✠ WORD ✠

Introit

Ps. 25:1-3; antiphon: Zech. 9:9b, alt.

Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.
To you, | O LORD,*
I lift | up my soul.
O my God, in you I trust; let me not be | put to shame;*
let not my enemies exult | over me.
Indeed, none who wait for you shall be | put to shame;*
they shall be ashamed who are wantonly | treacherous.
Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.

C **Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost;
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.**

Kyrie

LSB 186

C Lord, have mercy upon us.
Christ, have mercy upon us.
Lord, have mercy upon us.

Gloria in Excelsis

LSB 187

P Glory be to God on High,
C and on earth peace, goodwill toward men.
We praise Thee, we bless Thee, we worship Thee.
we glorify Thee, we give thanks to Thee, for Thy great glory.
O Lord God, heav'nly King, God the Father Almighty.
O Lord, the only-begotten Son, Jesus Christ;
O Lord God, Lamb of God, Son of the Father,
that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
Thou that takest away the sin of the world, receive our prayer.
Thou that sittest at the right hand of God the Father, have mercy upon us.
For Thou only art holy; Thou only art the Lord.
Thou only, O Christ, with the Holy Ghost,
art most high in the glory of God the Father. Amen.

Salutation and Collect of the Day

P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.

P Let us pray.
Stir up Your power, O Lord, and come, that by Your protection we may be rescued from the threatening perils of our sins and saved by Your mighty deliverance; for You live and reign with the Father and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.

C Amen.

Sit

Old Testament Reading

Isaiah 64:1-9

(Rend the heavens and come down)

¹Oh that you would rend the heavens and come down, that the mountains might quake at your presence—²as when fire kindles brushwood and the fire causes water to boil—to make your name known to your adversaries, and that the nations might tremble at your presence! ³When you did awesome things that we did not look for, you came down, the mountains quaked at your presence. ⁴From of old no one has heard or perceived by the ear, no eye has seen a God besides you, who acts for those who wait for him. ⁵You meet him who joyfully works righteousness, those who remember you in your ways. Behold, you were angry, and we sinned;

in our sins we have been a long time, and shall we be saved? ⁶We have all become like one who is unclean, and all our righteous deeds are like a polluted garment. We all fade like a leaf, and our iniquities, like the wind, take us away. ⁷There is no one who calls upon your name, who rouses himself to take hold of you; for you have hidden your face from us, and have made us melt in the hand of our iniquities. ⁸But now, O LORD, you are our Father; we are the clay, and you are our potter; we are all the work of your hand. ⁹Be not so terribly angry, O LORD, and remember not iniquity forever. Behold, please look, we are all your people.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Gradual

Zech. 9:9; Ps. 118:26, alt.

Rejoice greatly, O daughter of | Zion.*
Shout aloud, O daughter of Je- | rusalem.
Behold, your king is com- | ing to you;*
righteous and having sal- | vation.
Blessèd is he who comes in the name | of the Lord.*
From the house of the Lord we | bless you.

Epistle

1 Corinthians 1:3-9

(The Apostle Paul gives thanks)

³Grace to you and peace from God our Father and the Lord Jesus Christ. ⁴I give thanks to my God always for you because of the grace of God that was given you in Christ Jesus, ⁵that in every way you were enriched in him in all speech and all knowledge— ⁶even as the testimony about Christ was confirmed among you— ⁷so that you are not lacking in any spiritual gift, as you wait for the revealing of our Lord Jesus Christ, ⁸who will sustain you to the end, guiltless in the day of our Lord Jesus Christ. ⁹God is faithful, by whom you were called into the fellowship of his Son, Jesus Christ our Lord.

- A This is the Word of the Lord.
- C **Thanks be to God.**

Stand

Alleluia and Verse

- C **Alleluia. Alleluia. Alleluia.**

“Alleluia. Lift up your heads, O gates! And be lifted up, O ancient doors that the King of glory may come in. Alleluia.”

(The triumphal entry)

P The Holy Gospel according to St. Mark, the eleventh chapter.

C **Glory be to Thee, O Lord.**

¹Now when they drew near to Jerusalem, to Bethphage and Bethany, at the Mount of Olives, Jesus sent two of his disciples ²and said to them, "Go into the village in front of you, and immediately as you enter it you will find a colt tied, on which no one has ever sat. Untie it and bring it. ³If anyone says to you, 'Why are you doing this?' say, 'The Lord has need of it and will send it back here immediately.'" ⁴And they went away and found a colt tied at a door outside in the street, and they untied it. ⁵And some of those standing there said to them, "What are you doing, untying the colt?" ⁶And they told them what Jesus had said, and they let them go. ⁷And they brought the colt to Jesus and threw their cloaks on it, and he sat on it. ⁸And many spread their cloaks on the road, and others spread leafy branches that they had cut from the fields. ⁹And those who went before and those who followed were shouting, "Hosanna! Blessed is he who comes in the name of the Lord! ¹⁰Blessed is the coming kingdom of our father David! Hosanna in the highest!"

P This is the Gospel of the Lord.

C **Praise be to Thee, O Christ.**

Creed—*Nicene Creed*

C **I believe in one God,
the Father Almighty,
maker of heaven and earth
and of all things visible and invisible.**

**And in one Lord Jesus Christ,
the only-begotten Son of God,
begotten of His Father before all worlds,
God of God, Light of Light,
very God of very God,
begotten, not made,
being of one substance with the Father,
by whom all things were made;
who for us men and for our salvation came down from heaven
and was incarnate by the Holy Spirit of the virgin Mary
and was made man;
and was crucified also for us under Pontius Pilate.
He suffered and was buried.
And the third day He rose again according to the Scriptures
and ascended into heaven
and sits at the right hand of the Father.**

And He will come again with glory to judge both the living and the dead,
whose kingdom will have no end.

And I believe in the Holy Spirit,
the Lord and giver of life,
who proceeds from the Father and the Son,
who with the Father and the Son together is worshiped and glorified,
who spoke by the prophets.
And I believe in one holy Christian and apostolic Church,
I acknowledge one Baptism for the remission of sins,
and I look for the resurrection of the dead
and the life of the world to come. Amen.

Sit

Children’s Message—“Made New” (Isaiah 64:1-9) *The children of the congregation are invited to come up to the chancel area for a special message for them. Please note—parents of small children may also come up near the chancel area to accompany their children for the message)*

Sermon Hymn—332 Savior of the Nations, Come (vs. 5-8)

5 God the Father was His source,
Back to God He ran His course.
Into hell His road went down,
Back then to His throne and crown.

6 For You are the Father’s Son
Who in flesh the vict’ry won.
By Your mighty pow’r make whole
All our ills of flesh and soul.

7 From the manger newborn light
Shines in glory through the night.
Darkness there no more resides;
In this light faith now abides.

8 Glory to the Father sing,
Glory to the Son, our king,
Glory to the Spirit be
Now and through eternity.

Sermon—“Keep Watch” (Mark 13:24-37)

Mark 13:24-37–

²⁴[Jesus said:] “But in those days, after that tribulation, the sun will be darkened, and the moon will not give its light, ²⁵and the stars will be falling from heaven, and the powers in the heavens will be shaken. ²⁶And then they will see the Son of Man coming in clouds with great power and glory. ²⁷And then he will send out the angels and gather his elect from the four winds, from the ends of the earth to the ends of heaven.

²⁸“From the fig tree learn its lesson: as soon as its branch becomes tender and puts out its leaves, you know that summer is near. ²⁹So also, when you see these things taking place, you know that he is near, at the very gates. ³⁰Truly, I say to you, this generation will not pass away until all these things take place. ³¹Heaven and earth will pass away, but my words will not pass away.

³²“But concerning that day or that hour, no one knows, not even the angels in heaven, nor the Son, but only the Father. ³³Be on guard, keep awake. For you do not know when the time will come. ³⁴It is like a man going on a journey, when he leaves home and puts his servants in charge, each with his work, and commands the doorkeeper to stay awake. ³⁵Therefore stay awake—for you do not know when the master of the house will come, in the evening, or at midnight, or when the cock crows, or in the morning— ³⁶lest he come suddenly and find you asleep. ³⁷And what I say to you I say to all: Stay awake.”

Stand

Offertory

LSB 192

C **Create in me a clean heart, O God, and renew a right spirit within me.
Cast me not away from Thy presence, and take not Thy Holy Spirit from me.
Restore unto me the joy of Thy salvation, and uphold me with Thy free spirit. Amen.**

Offering

During this Covid-19 Pandemic, we will not be passing the offering plates during worship, but will have them at the entrance of the church for people to drop their offerings off before or after the worship service. Thank you for your generosity and support of Jesus Christ our Lord’s Kingdom work!!! God bless you!!!

You can now give online. It’s easy, fast, and secure. If you’re able, we also encourage you to set up recurring giving. Thank you for supporting our mission. Text the word: graceoc to 206-859-9405, use this QR Code or head to our web-site: graceoakcreek.org. You may give a one time gift or set up your regular weekly/ monthly offering. Those using this method of giving may still bring their envelope if they wish and simply write ‘online giving’ on the outside and place it in the offering plate.)



Prayer of the Church

✠ SACRAMENT ✠

Preface

LSB 194

P The Lord be with you.

C **And with thy spirit.**

P Lift up your hearts.

C **We lift them up unto the Lord.**

P Let us give thanks unto the Lord our God.

C **It is meet and right so to do.**

P It is truly meet, right, and salutary that we should at all times and in all places give thanks to You, holy Lord, almighty Father, everlasting God, through Jesus Christ, our Lord, whose way John the Baptist prepared, proclaiming Him the promised Messiah, the very Lamb of God who takes away the sin of the world, and calling sinners to repentance that they might escape from the wrath to be revealed when He comes again in glory. Therefore with angels and archangels and with all the company of heaven we laud and magnify Your glorious name, evermore praising You and saying:

Sanctus

LSB 195

C **Holy, holy, holy Lord God of Sabaoth;
heav'n and earth are full of Thy glory.**

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Blessed is He, blessed is He, blessed is He that cometh in the name of the Lord.

Hosanna, hosanna, hosanna in the highest.

Lord's Prayer

LSB 196

P Our Father who art in heaven,
hallowed be Thy name,
Thy kingdom come,
Thy will be done on earth as it is in heaven;
give us this day our daily bread;
and forgive us our trespasses as we forgive those who trespass against us;
and lead us not into temptation,
but deliver us from evil.

C **For Thine is the kingdom and the power and the glory forever and ever. Amen.**

The Words of Our Lord

LSB 197

P Our Lord Jesus Christ, on the night when He was betrayed, took bread, and when He had given thanks, He broke it and gave it to the disciples and said: “Take, eat; this is My T body, which is given for you. This do in remembrance of Me.”

In the same way also He took the cup after supper, and when He had given thanks, He gave it to them, saying: “Drink of it, all of you; this cup is the new testament in My T blood, which is shed for you for the forgiveness of sins. This do, as often as you drink it, in remembrance of Me.”

Pax Domini

LSB 197

P The peace of the Lord be with you always.
C Amen.

Agnus Dei

LSB 198

C O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, have mercy upon us.
O Christ, Thou Lamb of God, that takest away the sin of the world, grant us Thy peace.
Amen.

Sit

Distribution

We celebrate the Lord's Supper

Members of our sister LC-MS congregations are invited to join us for communion. Guests to our Lutheran Church are invited to first speak with Pastor before joining at our Lord's Table. We hope you will learn more about us as we gather to “Celebrate, Teach, and Confess” the Good News of God's Grace!

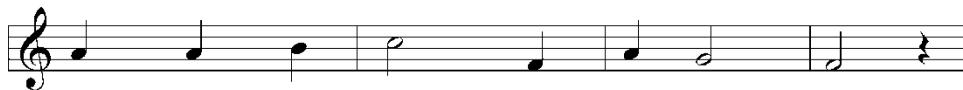
Grace Continuous Line Communion—*During this Covid-19 Pandemic we are doing continuous line communion here at Grace, we will do the Pulpit side first and then the lectern side, Pastor Taggatz and the Elder on duty will be using a mask and hand sanitizer before and after communion, and if you would like the Elder and Pastor to commune you in the pew, please be sure to let an Elder or an Usher know.*

Distribution Hymn

355 O Savior, Rend the Heavens Wide (vs. 1-7)



1 O Sav - ior, rend the heav - ens wide;
 2 O Fa - ther, light from heav - en send;
 3 O earth, in flow'r - ing bud be seen;
 4 O Fount of hope, how long, how long?
 5 O Morn - ing Star, O ra - diant Sun,



Come down, come down with might - y stride;
 As morn - ing dew, O Son, de - scend.
 Clothe hill and dale in garb of green.
 When will You come with com - fort strong?
 When will our hearts be - hold Your dawn?



Un - lock the gates, the doors break down;
 Drop down, you clouds, the life of spring:
 Bring forth, O earth, a blos - som rare,
 O come, O come, Your throne fore - go;
 O Sun, a - rise; with - out Your light



Un - bar the way to heav - en's crown.
 To Ja - cob's line rain down the King.
 Our Sav - ior, sprung from mead - ow fair.
 Con - sole us in our vale of woe.
 We grope in gloom and dark of night.

6 Sin's dreadful doom upon us lies;
 Grim death looms fierce before our eyes.
 O come, lead us with mighty hand
 From exile to our promised land.

7 There shall we all our praises bring
 And sing to You, our Savior King;
 There shall we laud You and adore
 Forever and forevermore.

Stand

Nunc Dimittis

LSB 199

- C Lord, now lettest Thou Thy servant depart in peace according to Thy word,
for mine eyes have seen Thy salvation, which Thou hast prepared before the face of
all people,
a light to lighten the Gentiles and the glory of Thy people Israel.
Glory be to the Father and to the Son and to the Holy Ghost,
as it was in the beginning, is now, and ever shall be, world without end. Amen.

Thanksgiving

LSB 200

- A O give thanks unto the Lord, for He is good,
C and His mercy endureth forever.
- A Let us pray.
We give thanks to You, almighty God, that You have refreshed us through this salutary gift,
and we implore You that of Your mercy You would strengthen us through the same in faith
toward You and fervent love toward one another; through Jesus Christ, Your Son, our Lord,
who lives and reigns with You and the Holy Spirit, one God, now and forever.
- C Amen.

Salutation and Benedicamus

- P The Lord be with you.
C And with thy spirit.
- A Bless we the Lord.
C Thanks be to God.

Benediction

LSB 202

- P The Lord bless you and keep you.
The Lord make His face shine on you and be gracious to you.
The Lord look upon you with favor and T give you peace.
C Amen.

Closing Hymn—353 Jesus Came, the Heavens Adoring (vs. 1-4)



- 1 Je - sus came, the heav'ns a - dor - ing, Came with peace from
2 Je - sus comes a - gain in mer - cy When our hearts are
3 Je - sus comes to hearts re - joic - ing, Bring - ing news of
4 Je - sus comes in joy and sor - row, Shares a - like our



realms on high; Je - sus came to win re - demp - tion,
 worn with care; Je - sus comes a - gain in an - swer
 sins for - giv'n; Je - sus comes with words of glad - ness,
 hopes and fears; Je - sus comes, what - e'er be - falls us,



Low - ly came on earth to die; Al - le - lu - ia!
 To an ear - nest, heart - felt prayer; Al - le - lu - ia!
 Lead - ing souls re - deemed to heav'n. Al - le - lu - ia!
 Cheers our hearts and dries our tears; Al - le - lu - ia!



Al - le - lu - ia! Came in deep hu - mil - i - ty.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Comes to save us from de - spair.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Hope to all the world is giv'n.
 Al - le - lu - ia! Com - forts us in fail - ing years.

Announcements

Pastor: Go in Peace and Serve the Lord!

People: Thanks be to God!



Altar Flowers

Altar flowers today are given by the children of Joanne Morgan
 in honor of her 80th birthday.

REMEMBER IN PRAYER

For all who worship this day, bless us through your Word, O Lord.

Logan (healing & strength) Great Grandson of Pauline Parker
Pastor Bill Wurm, Pastor Taggatz's father-in-law
Angela Strasse (cancer) friend of Taggatz family
Leigh Schmeiser (healing)
Mark Pulkownik (hospice)
Rev Paul Pett (awaiting kidney transplant surgery)
Dave Vitek (serving on the Greenfield Police Department) and Milw. Police Officers
Norma Manoil (cancer)
Jeanne Meyer (healing & strength)
Eleanor Taggatz (healing & strength) Pastor Taggatz's Grandma
Tom Janes (healing & strength) Diane Pielsnik's brother
Rachel Spaeth Jordahl (healing & strength)
Cindy Riemer (surgery)
Pat Toman (healing & strength)
Valerie (fighting cancer), Cathy Week's niece
Paul Carpenter (hospitalized) relative of Stephanie Gulizia
Ronnie Boyd (healing & strength)
Aleksander (hospitalized) Karina Penn's father
Artur (hospitalized) Karina Penn's brother
Art Hartsmandorfer (healing & strength) friend of Doc Medek
Paul Carpenter (COVID-19) relative of Stephanie Gulizia

For our Homebound Members at Grace:

Betty Lemmer, Gertrude Wenzel, Kathy Gaudian, Bernice Byklum, June Roewer, Art Steinborn, Ernst & Patricia Groth, Gloria Kilponen, and Mark Pulkownik.

We mourn with the family of Karina Penn, as they grieve over the recent death of her Grandfather, *Mikelis Martinsons*. Oh Lord, we pray that we may not grieve as those who have no hope, but that we may rejoice in the promise of the resurrection to life everlasting, and that we may encourage one another with these words, *we pray especially for Karina's* family as they mourn her grandfather, *Mikelis*, recent death, that casting every care upon you, they may know the consolation of your love. Amen.

***All those on the Grace Prayer Line dealing with long term health and medical issue;
Hear our prayer.***

We encourage you to submit prayer requests for worship and/or our prayer line by emailing:

Paulinemom@aol.com

If you do not have access to a computer you may call:

Prayers for worship:		Church Office	414-762-8990
Requests on prayer line:	10am-3 pm	Carol Thurber	414-762-9615
	3pm-9 pm	Pauline Parker	414-764-5574

Assisting with the Divine Service

We thank God for all those individuals who have been involved in supporting our worship services this week. If you are interested in assisting in any of the ways shown below, please speak with pastor or one of our elders.

	<u>Wednesday 6:30 pm</u>	<u>Sunday 8:00 am</u>	<u>Sunday 10:30 am</u>
<u>Elders</u>	Mark Olen	Gregg Nowakowski	Derek Poellet
<u>Readers</u>	Glenn Dotson	Erica Vitek	Lisa Kamprath
<u>Acolytes</u>		Madilyn Hundt	Eddie Taggatz
<u>Communion Set Up</u>	Janine Pieper/ Marlene Voss	Janine Pieper/ Marlene Voss	Char Klipfel
<u>Linen Care</u>	Jennifer Olen		Jennifer Olen

Pastor Taggatz Office Hours for Grace Lutheran Church

Monday 8:30 am-1:00 pm

Tuesday 8:30 am-1:00 pm

Wednesday 8:30 am-1:00 pm

Thursday 8:30 am-1:00 pm

Friday (Pastor's Day Off)

Visitations: Monday-Thursday afternoons

For appointments, call Grace Lutheran's church office or Pastor's cell phone.

For emergencies, call Pastor Taggatz: 715-467-1231

Church Secretary, Sarah Anderson: Tuesday-Thursday, 8:15 am-1:15 pm

THE LUTHERAN HOUR —"**Magnum Opus**" Speaker: Rev. Dr. Michael Zeigler. How is God like a band director? Learn how God enables us to play our part in His "*Magnum Opus*." (Daniel 8:27) **The Lutheran Hour can be heard any time on the internet at: lhm.org** scroll down the page and click on, "listen now." Or listen to any of these local radio stations on Sunday mornings.

WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	103.3	FM	Sun	6:30 AM
WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	620	AM	Sun	5:30 AM
WTMJ	Milwaukee, WI	620	AM	Sun	6:30 AM

Private Communion Service

We would like to encourage those that have not been attending worship services due to COVID-19 to come and partake in private communion. We will provide this service once per month starting on Monday, December 7 from 10:00am-12:00 noon. We have eight 15-minute time slots available so that you and/or your family can come and take communion. Social distancing and thorough cleaning will occur between each visit. Please contact Sarah Anderson Tuesday-Thursday between 8:15am-1:15pm to reserve your slot. If this date does not work for you please contact Pastor Taggatz directly at 715.467.1231.

Volunteers Needed

We are looking for volunteers to be considered for training as Counters and Stand-by Counters, beginning in January. The counters work in pairs, so either individuals or a couple would be welcome. Each pair of counters is scheduled for one counting session per month that takes about 2 hours, usually on a Sunday after the late service, but the schedule can be very flexible. Complete training is provided and newly assigned counters are scheduled with experienced people. This is an important process in our church's administration, and we welcome interested members. If you would like more information, please contact Bev Buretta.

Email: bevburetta@yahoo.com
Phone: 414-764-2923
Text or call: 414-303-6565

Power Point Team

Pastor Taggatz is looking for a few people who are Power Point experts and would like to help him with running the power point during our worship services and possibly editing the power point slides for worship each week. If interested, please contact him directly.

CHRISTMAS WREATHS

Order today- December 18th

Colors:
All red
All gold
Red and gold mix
or custom!



Order forms can be found in
the back of church or at ECC.

We are very excited to announce our **Grace Lutheran Early Childcare Center Christmas fundraiser for the year!** Our teachers and kids are excited to put wreaths together for you! Please check the display in the Narthex of the Church and order today before they sell out!

We are able to ship!

We can add shipping costs to the total

2021 Altar Flowers

- The sign-up sheet for 2021 Altar Flowers is posted on the white board in the narthex.
- Place your flower order directly with Parkway Floral: 414.762.0246
- Flowers should be brought or delivered to church before the Thursday service
- You can also supply your own arrangement. Rachel Miliacca will provide you with a vase liner.
- Your flowers will be refrigerated after the Thursday service so they will stay fresh for Sunday's services.

Your 2021 Grace Lutheran Offering Envelopes are available in the narthex of the Church. Please feel free to pick your envelopes up and we thank you for your continued support of our Church, School, and Early Childcare Center through the stewardship of your time, talents, and treasures! God bless you!
****Please do not use until January 2021.****

DO YOU KNOW SOMEONE THAT IS A GREAT COOK? We are still looking to hire a hot lunch coordinator for our school hot lunch program. Duties would include, but not limited to:

- Creating a healthy, well balanced monthly hot lunch menu.
- Order food and supplies required for daily meals.
- Cook, serve, and clean up daily for the hot lunch program.

Interested individuals should contact Mr. Gettelman directly at: principal@graceoakcreek.org or 414-762-3655

Mitten Tree

For the month of December, we will be collecting hats, scarves, mittens and gloves to keep others warm this winter. Items will be donated to South Milwaukee Human Concerns.



Altar Guild

There are a few openings on the Linen Care and Communion Set-up team we are looking to fill for the upcoming year. If you are interested in serving the Lord and Grace church in this way, please contact Jennifer Olen at 414.305.3740, olenjennifer@aol.com

Stewardship Minute

If you find it difficult to remember to begin each day with a simple stewardship prayer - asking God how He wants you to share the gifts He has given you - you might want to let one of the Magi be your reminder. The Magi - or three wise men - traveled far distances and made great sacrifices to bring gifts to Jesus. This year, before you pack away your nativity set, select one of the wise men bearing his gift for Jesus and set this statue in a place that you will see every day - maybe on your desk, your dresser or your kitchen counter. When you see this gift bearer let it be a reminder to ask Jesus what gifts He would like you to give for Him each day throughout the year. And if someone asks why you have a Christmas decoration out, you can simply say that this little statue is reminding you to be more generous.



GIVING TO GRACE THROUGH THE THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM—

When you're ready to make an impact on the causes and nonprofits you care most about, we're here to help. Through our Thrivent Choice® program, you can make a personal donation or direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® to more than 40,000 churches and nonprofits. Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars®. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract

values and Thrivent volunteer leadership.*****Special notice regarding the Thrivent Choice**

Program: Thrivent members wishing to continue their automatic withdrawal to the charity of their choice will have to let Thrivent know either by e-mail or phone. All you have to do is call this 1-800 number in order to see if you have Thrivent Choice dollars to give. To continue to direct your Choice Dollars to the charity of your choice call: 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice." **For More information on the Thrivent Choice Program please go to:** <https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-choice.html>

Greeting Card Ministry

The greeting-card ministry consists of volunteers mailing cards and notes of encouragement to people in nursing facilities, who are homebound, or otherwise can't be at church regularly. 'Think of your neighbor, love your neighbor.' This is the way people answer that message, letting people know they haven't been forgotten. If you would like to share in this ministry please take a card which is provided for you on the table in the narthex. Remember...you are giving joy to these people.

**WE DEMONSTRATE OUR
THANKFULNESS TO GOD BY
WHAT WE DO, SAY, AND GIVE.**



Advent Devotions from Lutheran Hour Ministries, “God with Us” What better news is there than to know that God is always by our side! In **God with Us**, we learn again what God the Father has done—He has kept His promise. In so doing, He has announced that grace and forgiveness are available to all, freely given in the birth of Jesus: God’s Son, our Savior. He is Immanuel, “God with us.” The story of God coming to earth as a human child is a profound one. In **God with Us**, we find no aloof divinity who is unconcerned and remote somewhere in the cosmos. Rather, He is deeply involved in all our affairs—our joys as well as our heartaches. He **knows** us for He became one of us. At Christmastime, we celebrate the birth of Jesus, Lord of the universe, Savior of the world, Shepherd of our lives. These Advent Devotions are available in the Narthex of our Church and include our Holiday Worship times here at Grace. Please feel free to pick one up and share it with a neighbor, coworker, friend, or family member to invite them to worship with us at Grace during this Holiday Season as we celebrate the birth of our dear Savior Jesus Christ.

GIVING TO GRACE THROUGH THE THRIVENT CHOICE PROGRAM—When you're ready to make an impact on the causes and nonprofits you care most about, we're here to help. Through our Thrivent Choice® program, you can make a personal donation or direct Thrivent Choice Dollars® to more than 40,000 churches and nonprofits. Eligible members can recommend where Thrivent distributes a portion of its charitable funding by directing Choice Dollars®. Members become eligible for Thrivent Choice based on insurance premiums, contract values and Thrivent volunteer leadership.***Special notice regarding the Thrivent Choice Program: Thrivent members wishing to continue their automatic withdrawal to the charity of their choice will have to let Thrivent know either by e-mail or phone. All you have to do is call this 1-800 number in order to see if you have Thrivent Choice dollars to give. To continue to direct your Choice Dollars to the charity of your choice call: 800-THRIVENT (800-847-4836) and state "Thrivent Choice." **For More information on the Thrivent Choice Program please go to:** <https://www.thrivent.com/what-we-offer/generosity/thrivent-choice.html>

IN THE WORD FOR THE FIRST SUNDAY IN ADVENT

Catechism: Lord's Prayer—Second and Third Petitions

Verse of the week: John 8:31b-32, *"If you abide in My word, you are My disciples indeed. 32 And you shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free."*

Psalm of the week: Psalm 101

Hymn of the week: (LSB 343) "Prepare the Royal Highway" (stanzas 1-2)

Bible Stories for the Week:

Sunday— The Triumphal Entry into Jerusalem—Matthew 21:1-9

Monday— Hannah Prays for a Son—1 Samuel 1:1-18

Tuesday— The Prophet Samuel Is Born—1 Samuel 1:19—2:2

Wednesday— St. Andrew, Apostle—John 1:35-42a

Thursday— The Song of Hannah—1 Samuel 2:1-11

Friday— The Lord Calls to the Boy Samuel—1 Samuel 2:12, 18-21; 3:1-20

Saturday—The Day of the Lord—Malachi 4:1-6

"Christians engage in adopting not only because we desire to raise children but also—and above all—because the Most High desires their survival and salvation. We adopt because we have been so adopted. We adopt because little ones need homes. We adopt because we have homes and families to share. Life issues mean more than just political debates. Life issues involve more than just personal choices or someone else's problems. Life issues are always people and Gospel." *Rev. Michael W. Salemink, Executive Director of Lutherans For Life - A Life Quote from Lutherans For Life • www.lutheransforlife.org* "Hurting from abortion? Word of Hope can help. www.word-of-hope.org; 888-217-8679.

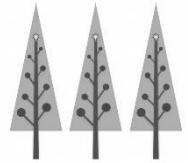
"O Come, Emmanuel: Come, We Pray"

On Thursday nights @ 6:30pm at Grace Lutheran Church during the month of December we will once again be having our Advent Midweek services. We will be following the Service of Prayer & Preaching from Lutheran Service Book. But, we will also be observing the theme for our Advent Midweek Services on Christmas Eve, Christmas Day, and for our New Year's Eve Service.

The theme for our special Advent Midweek and Christmas services is "*O Come, O Come Emmanuel,*" derived from both the popular hymn version and the original antiphon version. Maybe a thousand years old or older, it was translated from Latin into rhymed poetry in the mid-nineteenth century by Anglican clergyman Rev. John Mason Neale. The popular version, translated by Rev. Neale in rhymed poetry, often departs from the original Latin. Originally, one antiphon was chanted on each of the seven days before Christmas. The first letter of each Latin title of Christ when put together and read in reverse order spells ERO CRAS, or "*Tomorrow I come.*" The antiphons generally derive from the prophecies of Isaiah. For centuries, one of the most beloved Advent or Christmas songs of the Church has been "*O Come, O Come, Emmanuel.*" Not only is the common tune appropriate for the Advent and Christmas season, but so are the lyrics. Each stanza is a prayer for Christ to come according to attributes prophetically ascribed to him, largely in the Old Testament book of Isaiah. It is my prayer that our members of Grace Lutheran Church will be edified and grow to cherish our Savior Jesus who has come, who comes in Word and Sacrament, and who will come on the Last Day.

Holiday Worship Service Schedule

Thursday Dec. 3rd 6:30pm-Advent Midweek 1 “O Come, Wisdom” Isaiah 11:2
 Thursday Dec. 10th 6:30pm-Advent Midweek 2 “O Come, Adonai” Isaiah 33:22
 Thursday Dec. 17th 6:30pm-Advent Midweek 3 “O Come, Branch of Jesse” Isaiah 11:1
 Thursday Dec. 24th 4pm, 5:30pm-Christmas Eve “O Come, Key of David” Isaiah 22:22
 Friday Dec. 25th 9:30am-Christmas Day “O Come, Dayspring” Isaiah 9:2
 Thursday Dec. 31st 4:00pm-New Year’s Eve “O King of the Nations, You Have Come” Matthew 2:2



**Growing In Grace
 November 19 & 22, 2020**

<u>Offering</u>			
General Offering	\$2,031.00	Attendance	87
On-Line Giving	848.01	Communed	60
Missions	0.00		
Debt Fund	0.00		
Mortgage Offering	500.00		
Lutheran High	0.00		
Bible Study/Sunday School	0.00		
Total	\$3,379.01		

OPPORTUNITIES AT GRACE THIS WEEK

Sunday	11/29	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Worship Service Sunday School @ church Adult Bible Study @ church
Monday	11/30	2:30pm 6:30 pm	Confirmation Class, school children Confirmation Class, public school @ church
Tuesday	12/1	7:00 am 6:30 pm	Men’s Bible Breakfast @ OC Diner Stephen Ministry Meeting @ church
Wednesday	12/2	9:30 am 6:30 pm	Ladies Bible Study @ church Board Meetings @ church
Saturday	12/5	8:00 am	Rise & Sonshine Bible Study @ church
Sunday	12/6	8:00 am 9:15 am 9:15 am 10:30 am	Divine Worship Service Sunday School @ church Adult Bible Study Divine Worship/Trim the tree Service

SPECIAL WELCOME TO OUR VISITORS

We have gathered today to celebrate the most precious gifts and treasures our Lord gives us: His forgiveness, life and salvation. It would be our honor to have you join us again next week as we “Celebrate, Teach, and Share” the Good News of God’s Grace among all people.

Grace is committed to supporting families through our Early Childhood Center, Day School, and High School. We are blessed to be a member of the Lutheran High School Association of Milwaukee.

Pastor	Rev. John M. Taggatz	414-762-8990(O) 715-467-1231 (Cell) 262-664-4365 (Home) thewordendures.blogspot.com
Principal	Mr. Steve Gettelman	414-762-3655
ECC Director	Rachel Miliacca	414-762-8755
Director of Music	Mrs. Lisa Hengst	
Choir Director	Mrs. Kathy Kolb	
Congregation President	Mr. Tony Mirenda	414-807-7445
Fax:	Church/School ECC	414-762-8869 414-856-9262
Pastor		pastor@graceoakcreek.org
Church Office	Sarah Anderson, Secretary	church@graceoakcreek.org
Principal		principal@graceoakcreek.org
School Office	Dena Guziewicz, Admin. Asst.	school@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Director		eccdirector@graceoakcreek.org
ECC Office		ecc@graceoakcreek.org

Church & ECC
3381 E. Puetz Rd.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

School & Church Office
Mailing Address
8537 S. Pennsylvania Ave.
Oak Creek, Wisconsin 53154

